



**Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)**  
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### **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** January 24, 2020

**TO:** The Honorable Members of the Delaware General Assembly

**FROM:** Ann C. Fisher, Chairperson  
GACEC

**RE:** **House Bill No. 201 (Administration of the Statewide Program for Services for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder)**

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed **House Bill No. 201**, which requires that the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) administer the statewide program for services for students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and hire the Director for the program. Council **supports** the proposed legislation.

Placing the program under the DDOE, and not within a school district or other entity, will work to alleviate concerns previously expressed by the Council. The Council has also previously supported similar legislation for other low incidence populations, including the deaf and hard-of-hearing and asks that consideration be given to moving these programs under the authority of the DDOE as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our endorsement. Please feel free to contact me or Wendy Strauss at the GACEC office should you have any questions.